

UNAPPROVED
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
MEETING MINUTES OF
August 27, 2007

TIME The meeting convened at 6:40 P.M.

PRESENT Chair Lord-Hausman, Vice-Chair Moore and Commissioners Berger, Fort, Kirola, and Longley-Cook.

ABSENT Commissioners Hakanson, Robinson and Kreitz.

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 23, 2007 meeting were approved with the following corrections all noted by Commissioner Longley-Cook:

Roll Call:

Commissioner Longley-Cook stated that she was present at the July 23, 2007 meeting.

Minutes:

Commissioner Longley-Cook stated that she made the correction to the June 18, 2007 meeting minutes regarding the SSHRB and not Commissioner Kirola.

Old Business, Item 2:

In the first sentence the word “met” should be replaced with the word “meeting;” and

Staff Communications:

The word “Board” should be replaced with the word “Commission.”

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Lower Washington Park:

1. Chair Lord-Hausman discussed the response she received from Dale Lillard, AR&PD Director, regarding Lower Washington Park accessibility issues raised by Commissioner Longley-Cook. Mr. Lillard indicated that the trail in Lower Washington Park ends at the City property line. The area in question belongs to the East Bay Regional Park District. Chair Lord-Hausman indicated that she would contact the East Bay Regional Park Supervisor, Anne Rockwell, for possible repairs.
2. Commissioner Longley-Cook also expressed concern over trying to find disabled parking as well as going to visit booths for a disabled person who is not in a motorized wheelchair, during the July 4th celebration at Rittler Park. Chair Lord-Hausman reviewed Mr. Lillard’s written comments to this concern. He indicated that AR&PD have been experimenting with a number of different configurations and layouts for the Fun Faire at Rittler Park. During the internal

evaluation meeting following this year's event, it was determined that both the ticket selling and food booth locations need to be together. They have always provided disabled parking but will make more of an effort to designate the location through the use of directional signs in the future.

Carnegie Building:

Chair Lord-Hausman discussed a request from the City's Building Official, Greg McFann, regarding efforts to reopen the Carnegie. Mr. McFann indicated that the City is currently working with a consultant to develop a plan to reopen the Carnegie and would like to come before the Commission to receive comments on the proposal. Chair Lord-Hausman will contact Mr. McFann for scheduling a discussion before the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Brown Act Training (Assistant City Attorney):

Assistant City Attorney Byron Toma conducted a Brown Act Training with the Commissioners. The three main points of the Training discussed the following key points:

- People's business must be conducted in public.
- People have a right to participate in their government.
- In order to participate, people must receive adequate

Commissioner Kirola requested clarification regarding discussion of agenda items with the "...majority of members at the same time and place..." during non-meeting hours.

Assistant Attorney Toma responded that any time a majority of the members are gathered together at any place, (in this case the majority would be five since there are currently nine Commissioners) they are prohibited from discussing any action which may be taken by the collective Commission at a future meeting which may influence the outcome of a decision, including discussing the item in advance of an open meeting and public discussion.

Assistant Attorney Toma also emphasized that any ceremonial events that the Commission sponsors, such as the future scheduled tree planting ceremony, must also be agendaized since it is an event being sponsored by the Commission and a majority of the members will be in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Disability Awareness Month (Vice Chair Moore):

Vice-Chair Moore stated that John McDonald, AR&PD, has confirmed that the Commission may designate one of the redwood trees already planted at Lincoln Park as part of the tree planting ceremony for Disability Awareness Month, as well as place a placard at the bottom of the tree. Mr. McDonald also confirmed that the Commission has the permission do this on a yearly basis.

Chair Lord-Hausman requested that Vice-Chair Moore receive written confirmation concerning the placard, as the City just passed a new ordinance banning decals and placards on public property. The Chair then suggested that the Commission pick a date for the actual ceremony.

Commissioner Kirola proposed to kick-off the month of October, beginning with the ceremony.

Vice-Chair Moore proposed Saturday, October 6, 2007.

Commissioner Berger expressed concern over City staffing time for a weekend event.

Vice-Chair Moore responded that she would follow up with Mr. McDonald regarding City staffing.

The Commission agreed to have the ceremony on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

Chair Lord-Hausman confirmed that she would check with the Mayor's calendar so that the event may be timed when she is present. The Chair also encouraged the Commissioners to inform and invite people to the ceremony.

Commissioner Berger stated that in the past, the Council has pushed the date back of the proclamation for City Council meetings and is concerned that it will happen this year.

Secretary Akil confirmed that the Council meets the first and third Tuesday of every month and this item should be agendaized for the first meeting of the month, which will be October 2, 2007.

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that she would work on not allowing any delays regarding the proclamation.

2. Commission on Disability Internet Link (Chair Lord-Hausman/Secretary Akil):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that she met with a website designer who understands the City's limited budget on getting an accessibility link up and running within the City's website. The

Chair will provide the website designer with an outline of the proposed site and he in return, has agreed to provide estimates based on the outline he receives.

Commissioner Kirola stated her top three accessible links would include parks,, schools and housing and that the list of designated sites be located to the left side of the page.

Commissioner Berger stated the need to educate others to emphasize what accessibility resources are available.

Commissioner Longley-Cook suggested adding a wheelchair rider's guide, which will provide links to wheelchair accessible places.

Chair Lord-Hausman asked Commissioner Berger to review AR&PD Summer Activity Guide and the Adult School Guide which might offer some information on what accessibility resources are currently available in the City.

3. Commissioner Duties (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman encouraged the members to be mindful of their ongoing duties and responsibilities to increase disability awareness through the City.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary Akil acknowledged that Ed Sommerauer would be the Interim Secretary during her maternity leave.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. Crab Cove Concerts:

Commissioner Longley-Cook stated that she and Commissioner Hakanson received many inquiries regarding the Commission at the last Crab Cove event.

2. Arthritis Expo:

Commissioner Longley-Cook shared a flyer regarding the upcoming Arthritis Expo on September 15, 2007 in the City of Burlingame at the Hyatt Regency near SFO.

3. Alameda Hospital Health Fair:

Commissioner Berger stated the Alameda Hospital Health Fair is scheduled to occur in October. Chair Lord-Hausman will contact the hospital for the specific date and request that the CDI be given a table on the inside during the event. This item will be placed on the September 24, 2007 CDI meeting agenda for continued discussion.

4. October CDI Meeting:

Chair Lord-Hausman requested that the October 22, 2007 CDI meeting date be changed to October 15, 2007 as she will be out of town. The Commission agreed to the date change and requested that a notice of the meeting date change be included in the September 24 mailing packet.

5. Farmers Market (Webster Street):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that the Public Works Department would designate handicap parking on Taylor Street next to Farmers Market, since Webster Street has heavier traffic flow.

6. Blanding Avenue Accessibility Issues:

Commissioner Berger questioned if any action had been taken on the pedestrian access issues along Blanding Avenue. Chair Lord-Hausman stated the issue has been referred to the ADA Secretary to be addressed through the on-going ADA Transition Plan update.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 24, 2007, 6:30 P.M. in Room 360 at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia A. Akil
Commission Secretary